

peppered during town hall meetings. "Why is it that Americans are always the ones who have to pay?"

Why? Because we are Americans.

Because, when ruthless dictators take innocent lives, when people—like Saddam Hussein—terrorize their own people, when evil people conduct unspeakably evil acts against their own—we must ask ourselves, "Who else will act?"

"Who else will?"

Time and again, America has given its blood, its strength and its money to promote and protect freedom overseas.

As the world's standard bearer for democracy and freedom we have inherited this duty. We are America—This is what we do.

Some will say that we cannot afford to support Iraq. I say we can't afford not to.

We are committed—like it or not—to the rebuilding efforts in Iraq. It is incumbent upon us to lay the foundation of a free economy for a country now free from oppression.

The Iraqi people are looking to us to uphold our responsibility for security and reconstruction. We must follow through on our commitments to the Iraqi people and the local population must understand that we have their true interests at heart.

We should never again come to the floor of this House and make speeches about mass graves, malnutrition, environmental devastation and WMD. Neither should we again detail to our constituents the horrors of state-sponsored rape, murder and torture in Iraq.

Can it happen again? You bet.

Saddam's minions want us to leave, they want Americans dead—because they will use the same forces of terror they are using today, to kill innocent Iraqis and American soldiers, as a path to power tomorrow.

If we abandon Iraq, we are back to square one. We dishonor the men and women who have given their lives for us and the Iraqi people during this necessary mission. Our Nation's fight for freedom in Iraq.

Our job will have been left undone and for what?

This Congress should be committed to assisting Iraq in becoming an independent, self-governing and economically viable nation. We must finish the work and honor the sacrifice of so many dedicated soldiers.

To abandon our efforts would be inhumane to the people of Iraq and dangerous to our national security.

The world has changed. Many of us—especially those of us on the Appropriations Committee—sensed a new insecurity after the 1998 embassy bombings in Tanzania and Kenya and the attack on the USS *Cole* in Yemen.

The United States did not act appropriately then.

The events in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania forced us into this new role because we must protect ourselves and the free world.

Why? Once again. Because who else will?

So here we are today, setting the course for a free Iraq.

We have all been sent to Washington by our constituents to make difficult and honest choices. You will make a choice today.

This package reflects a vision and a hope that America can be a catalyst for freedom and peace in the Middle East—freedom that generations of Iraqis have not yet experienced

and the kind of freedom we take for granted every day.

Be a catalyst for freedom and security. Vote in favor of this appropriations bill.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Chairman, under the balance of the debate time, I have a series of thoughts that I would like to present, but I am going to wait until we actually have the bill before us.

In the meantime, I just want to make this one closing thought before yielding to the majority leader. We have talked so often about what our constituents have told us, this week, last week, the week before. After Desert Storm, over a decade ago, one complaint was we went to war against Saddam Hussein, but we never finished the job. This finishes the job. I still hear that complaint today. We got rid of Saddam Hussein and most of his henchmen, and now we are finishing the job to get our troops back home. We cannot do that until we have established, as the United Nations agreed today to help expedite the establishment, a government in Iraq, to establish a form of constitution and to provide those things that a government would provide for their people.

Mr. Chairman, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY), the very distinguished majority leader.

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time. I really appreciate the gentleman bringing this to the floor and conducting what I think is one of the most important debates in the country and in our careers. It has been a good debate.

I hope Members of this House would pay attention to the statement by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURTHA). As I sat in this Chamber listening to the gentleman from Pennsylvania speak, I was looking at a gentleman that I have the utmost respect for but mostly because he knows what he is talking about. If the Members back in their offices did not see the gentleman from Pennsylvania's comments, I would hope that they would get the transcript and read it. Because when he says that the reconstruction money is as important as the money to go to the troops, he is absolutely right, and it is part of the war on terror.

Mr. Chairman, this debate, for all the time and energy that it has consumed, really comes down to one question: Are we at war with international terrorism or are we not? And with this vote, every Member of the House will tell the world how seriously they take the war on terror. Let us put an end to the sleight-of-hand rhetoric some of the war's opponents have used of late. To those who have feigned offense about their patriotism being questioned, this is not about your patriotism. It is about your judgment. While I am on it, let me just say that that old debating tactic of "I support the troops, but" is just not going to cut it this time. If you support the war and you support

the troops, you must vote for this bill. The war that we are fighting cannot be won without a safe and secure Iraq. It cannot be won without the reconstruction funding in this bill. It is just that simple.

Everyone in this building and everyone in this country has the right to oppose this war and oppose this war supplemental, but that opposition and the weak and indecisive foreign policy that it represents has consequences. A "no" vote on this bill is a "no" vote on the war on terror and will serve to undermine our coalition. If you oppose the war, feel free to vote "no." But at that moment, the American people will know for sure who is working to win the war on terror. This bill does not just fund the war, it funds the overall strategy of the war on terror. That means, Mr. Chairman, that the reconstruction money is defense spending; it is war spending; and it is homeland security spending. These priorities are one and the same, because they serve the same strategy and combat the same enemy. And that enemy, I would remind my colleagues, is not each other but the enemy is the terrorists.

This is life and death, Mr. Chairman, not politics. And if we are serious about winning this war, we must pass this bill. Since we took on this fight 2 years ago, two oppressed nations have been liberated. Terrorist networks around the world have been destroyed or forced into hiding. And the brotherhood of human freedom has been expanded by 50 million Iraqis and Afghans. This is all because the American people have once again decided, Mr. Chairman, in the face of an unthinkable evil to stand and fight.

I urge my colleagues to stand and fight with them today and vote for this bill.

The CHAIRMAN. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to the order of the House of October 14, 2003, the Committee rises.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. KIRK) having assumed the chair, Mr. LATOURETTE, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under further debate the subject of a bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for defense and the reconstruction of Iraq and Afghanistan for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, had come to no resolution thereon.

□ 1515

LIMITATION ON CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN AMENDMENTS DURING CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3289, EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE AND FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN, 2004

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that during

consideration of H.R. 3289 in the Committee of the Whole pursuant to House Resolution 396, before consideration of any other amendment, except pro forma amendments by the chairman or ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their designees for the purpose of debate, it shall be in order to consider the following amendments:

an amendment in the nature of a substitute by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY), which shall be debatable for 15 minutes;

an amendment by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) regarding sustenance, which shall be debatable for 10 minutes;

an amendment by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) regarding quality of life, which shall be debatable for 30 minutes;

an amendment by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE) regarding loans, which shall be debatable for 1 hour;

and an amendment by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) regarding loans, which shall be debatable for 1 hour.

Each such amendment may be offered only in the order specified, may be offered only by a Member designated or a designee, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified, equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. An amendment shall be considered to fit the description stated in this request if it addresses in whole or in part the object described.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KIRK). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

Mr. OBEY. Reserving the right to object, Mr. Speaker, I would like the gentleman to make clear that the adoption of this unanimous consent request in no way changes the consideration of any other amendment, that Members who have other amendments will still be able to offer those amendments and they will be disposed of precisely in the same manner in which they would be disposed of under the rule.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. OBEY. I yield to the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman is absolutely correct. Without any prejudice to any other Member or any other amendment that might be offered, this unanimous consent would not have any adverse or negative effect on the Members' opportunity to offer those amendments.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and that I may include tabular and extraneous material on H.R. 3289.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE AND FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN, 2004

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 396 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 3289.

The Chair designates the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) as chairman of the Committee of the Whole, and requests the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) to assume the chair temporarily.

□ 1519

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 3289) making emergency supplemental appropriations for defense and for the reconstruction of Iraq and Afghanistan for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes, with Mrs. BIGGERT (Chairman pro tempore) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered as having been read the first time.

Under the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG).

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Chairman, I yield myself 1 minute.

I do so to point out that we have debated this bill for a long time now, 6 hours on the general debate, 1 hour under the rule; and now we will have another hour's debate plus the amending process. The largest amount of dollars in this bill will go for our troops, for our national defense, for our soldiers and all of our military forces who are involved in the war in Afghanistan and Iraq. The second largest portion of the bill has to do with construction in Iraq, the development of creating a constitutional system where the Iraqis can control their own destiny and our troops can come home. And I want our troops to come home, and that is why I want to get this money appropriated so that we stabilize the country of Iraq to the point that our troops can come home.

Madam Chairman, I yield 10 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS), who is the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations' Defense Subcommittee, who has led a large delegation to Iraq and has covered the country very well, has returned with just a tremendous report on what is actually happening there without regard to any spin control by the media. He has done a really good job as chairman of this subcommittee. He did an outstanding job in leading his delegation to Iraq.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Chairman, I thank the chairman for yielding me this time.

I doubt that I will take the entire 10 minutes at this moment; but it is very important, I think, for the Members of the House to join together and recognize the long-term impact that we may be about effecting today as we consider this very important supplemental.

In anybody's book, \$87 billion is a lot of money. Indeed, it was not very long ago, 2 weeks ago, the President signed into law the appropriations for the 2004 national defense funding. Those dollars pay for the fiscal year that is ahead of us, for the expenses of housing, of training, of providing food and forage for the men and women who make up our forces. The moneys also involve paying for the assets that they use whether they be airplanes, ships at sea, or arms that they must carry. Those dollars also pay for the research and development that allow us to stay on the cutting edge for the wars that we may have to fight somewhere over the horizon. All of that is a piece of national security or the national defense, a total in that package in excess of \$370 billion.

There is just not any question that defending America, being the strongest country in the world, is an expensive process. To say the least, our national defense is a priority for the country. Over half of our discretionary money goes into these pools because our people have long recognized that our freedom is critical to our future, and we know very well that maintaining that freedom is a price we must and we are willing to pay.

The one thing that is not often said, peace is one thing, maintaining our freedom is very critical, but war is an entirely different thing. War is really expensive. We remain strong as a country because we are peacemakers. From time to time we find ourselves in a circumstance where war is a requirement if we are going to stabilize our future in this shrinking world. We found ourselves in this circumstance in the Middle East. And the war on terrorism, which is a direct result of 9-11, and the President's taking head-on the challenge of terrorism throughout the world has put us on a track that suggests that America is the only remaining superpower, and we will lead the point insofar as not just maintaining the peace is concerned but also ferreting out terrorism wherever it might exist, wherever it may be harbored.